

# ADVENTURES OF YOUTH MIRACLE

### William J. LaVarre Explores Astonishing Exploits

COLUMBIA, S. C.—(AP)—In February 8, 1922, a writer in the Boston Transcript had this to say: "The man who first succeeds in getting the truth about William J. LaVarre is foredoomed to be called a liar."

The writer was referring to the exploits of a youth whose diamond hunting expeditions in the hazardous Mazaruni river section of British Guiana had attracted wide attention.

Today, LaVarre finds his adventures and his thrills in co-ownership of a string of newspapers in South Carolina and Georgia.

At 18, he had penetrated the Lizardus Mazaruni, and three years later he had headed another expedition into the same territory and returned to this country with 650 carats of diamonds, one of them the 30-carat Kurupung, said to be the largest stone ever discovered in the western hemisphere.

Many of a chapter has been added to the story of LaVarre since that time.

The latest concerns his suit for \$2,500,000 against the International Paper company and the International Paper and Power company. It comes as a sequel to the purchase of four newspapers, and of a federal trade commission investigation into ownership of newspapers by power concerns.

LaVarre, who is now 31 years old, in association with Harold Hill, early this year purchased the Augusta, Ga. Chronicle, the Columbia Record, the Spartanburg, S. C. Journal, and the Spartanburg Herald. The International concern furnished money, the total in loans amounting to nearly \$2,000,000.

The federal trade commission hearing followed and LaVarre was called before the commission to talk about the deal.

In his \$2,500,000 suit, he charges that the paper and power companies violated their agreement to lend him the \$2,500,000 as a minimum. He also charges that the companies tried to suppress publication in his papers of the commission's investigation.

LaVarre is a native of Virginia. In 1917, he had a chance to accompany an explorer into the Mazaruni region. A book telling of this trip was published in 1918. There intervened several years in which he was at Harvard and then in 1921 he was again in British Guiana. Two prospectors found the 30-carat stone that brought fame to LaVarre, on the Kurupung creek, a tributary of the Mazaruni, and LaVarre purchased it for \$3,500.

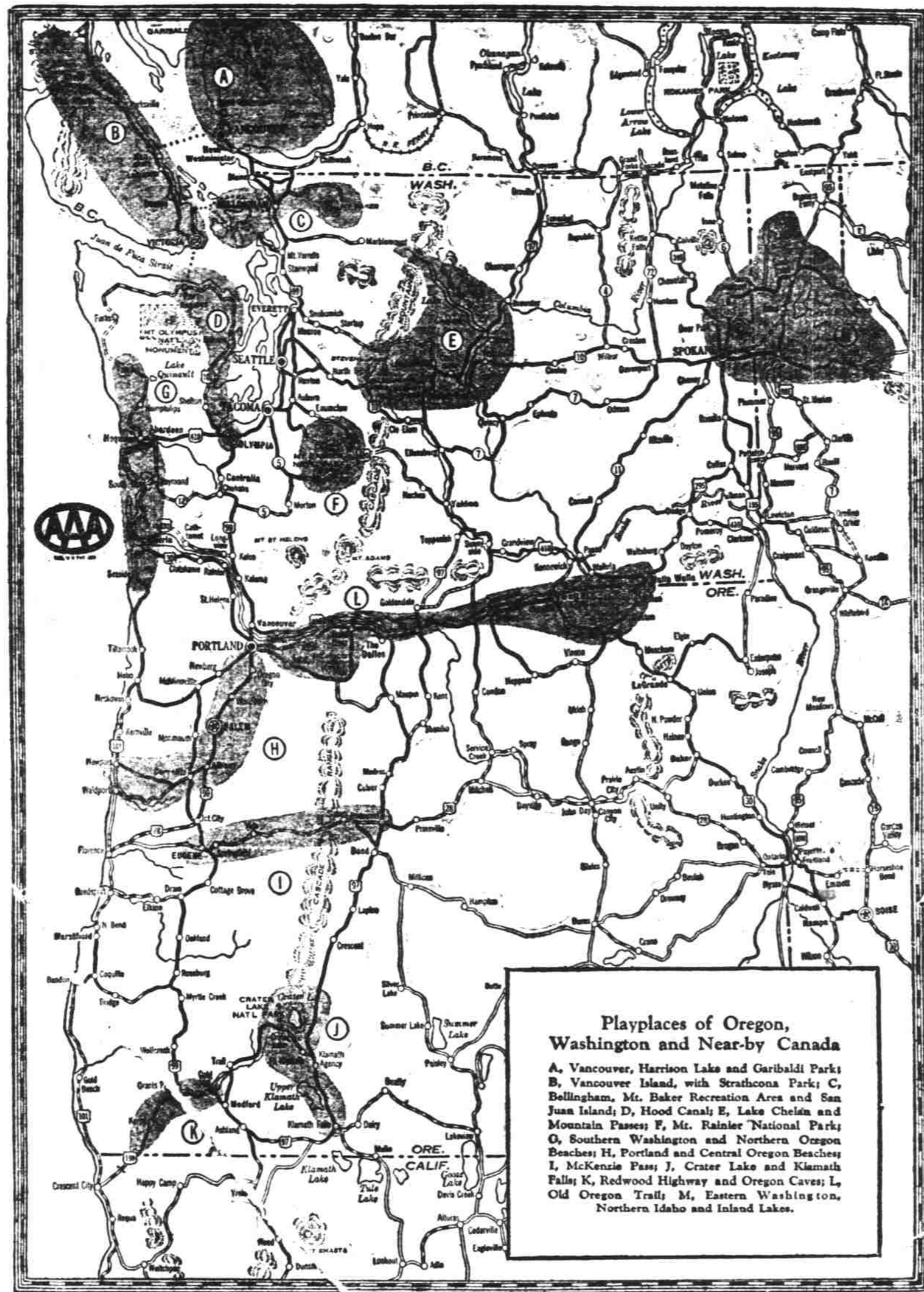
Press dispatches from New York told of the return of the young adventurer on the liner Vestris, with his hoard of precious gems. In his expeditions, several in number, he is said to have collected more than 1,000 geological and other specimens for the American Museum of Natural History and the Smithsonian Institution.

## LONG REFUELING FLIGHT SCHEDULED

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 4—(AP)—START of the transcontinental refueling flight projected by the Boeing companies in conjunction with the army was set today for 10 a. m., Tuesday.

The flight plane, "The Shuttle" which will be used will arrive at the Oakland airport from Seattle at 3 o'clock tomorrow afternoon piloted by Lieut. Bernard S. Thompson, who will be co-pilot of Captain Ira Eaker in the attempt to cross the continent four times and then fly over Cleveland for an indefinite period.

## Playplaces of Great Pacific Northwest are Available to Pleasure-Seeking Salem Motorists



**Playplaces of Oregon, Washington and Near-by Canada**  
A. Vancouver, Harrison Lake and Garibaldi Park  
B. Vancouver Island, with Strathcona Park; C. Bellingham, Mt. Baker Recreation Area and San Juan Islands; D. Hood Canal; E. Lake Chelan and Mountain Passes; F. Mt. Rainier National Park; G. Southern Washington and Northern Oregon Beaches; H. Portland and Central Oregon Beaches; I. McKenzie Pass, Crater Lake and Klamath Falls; K. Redwood Highway and Oregon Caves; L. Old Oregon Trail, Mt. Eastern Washington, Northern Idaho and Inland Lakes.

## Back Tracking Auto Trail

By DAVID J. WILKIE  
Associated Press Correspondent  
DETROIT—(AP)—An unnamed engineer helped Paris solve a problem of rapid transit to and from its suburbs early in 1897 with the building of a "motor train" or "trackless railroad," as dispatches of the day described it.

It was a two-car train, the front car being propelled by steam and resembling much the appearance of the present day bus.

"Being independent of rails, it is not subject to a general breakdown," one news writer declared. "That the train aroused no little curiosity is evidenced in news dispatches of the time telling of its operation. 'It is very curious to see the motor train conducting itself like a thing of life; it might be called the 'intelligent train,' after the example of the submarine boat, 'the intelligent whale,'" one reporter wrote.

"Instead of changing a fearful going and ordering all traffic out of the way, as the cable car, the motor car moves around the obstruction."

The "trackless train" operated

between the bridges of Neuilly and Colombes.

A unique and interesting contribution to the early days of the automotive industry was the invention of a "road wagon motor" by Albert H. Kennedy of Rockport, Ind., in 1896.

Described as a "motor to propel road vehicles," it was said to be "unlike the ordinary motor" because it could be "attached to any style vehicle, thus avoiding the necessity of constructing a carriage especially for use as a motor vehicle."

The motor consisted of a one-cylinder engine placed on carrying wheels and so arranged that it could be attached to any part of the body of the carriage, "although preferably to the rear axle." The "cylinder and engine," as one writer described the device, were carried on a single axle.

The scheme of transmission seemingly did not envision the days of torque tubes, universal joints and differentials. "The piston rods which work through the

cylinder in much the same manner as a steam engine, carry the force of the engine to a bent shaft the axle and so put the whole affair in motion," said the prospectus.

In operation, application of the motor gave the appearance of an extra set of two wheels attached to the rear of the vehicle. "If one objects to the motor trailing behind the rear axle it can be attached to the body of the carriage and run between the ordinary wheels or it can be attached to the front axle and so run carriage," the prospectus added, "completely beneath the body of the vehicle."

Claims totaling \$1315.70 have been paid to Statesman readers by the North American Accident Insurance Co., in the past year. These claims were paid on the \$1.00 policy issued to Statesman subscribers.

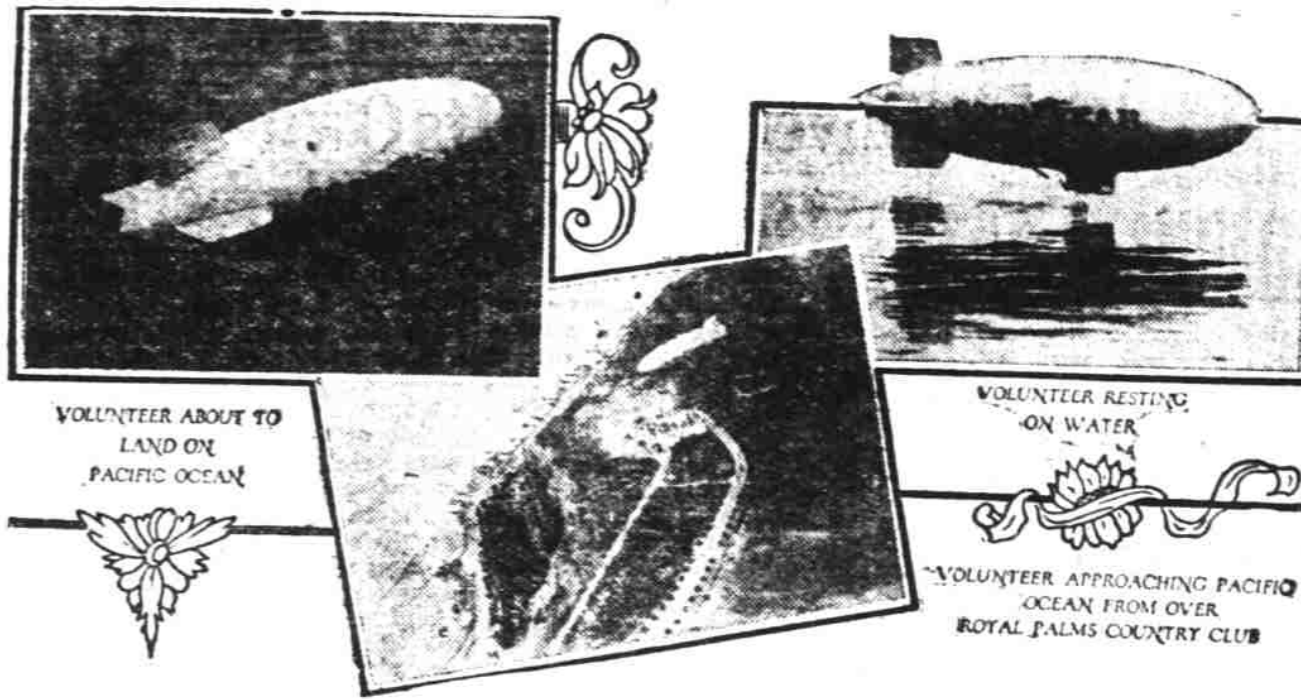
## RARE RAPHAEL IS PUT ON EXHIBITION

SAN FRANCISCO—(AP)—Kept from the public eye on the island of Rugen for nearly a century, an early Raphael oil painting, the Madonna di Gaeta, is being privately exhibited here by the German consul, Werner Otto von Hentig.

It will remain in San Francisco until removed to a Latin European palace, the location of which he declines to reveal.

Count von Uelrich and Lottum purchased the rare canvas about 1830 while Prussian ambassador to the Two Sicilies. Its value today has been estimated at from \$250,000 to \$750,000.

## Goodyear Dirigible in Flight



## Hold National Exposition Of Aircraft Industries

### Big Program Planned for Convention in Cleveland on Air Engineering

CLEVELAND—(Special)—More than a thousand engineers and executives of the aeronautic industry attending the National Air Races and Aircraft Exposition in Cleveland the latter part of this month will meet at the Hotel Staler, August 26, 27 and 28, to discuss engineering problems of the industry.

These meetings of the society of automotive engineers and the Aeronautical chamber of commerce of America will bring together the leading engineering authorities on propellers, aircraft engines and aerodynamics, who will present results of research and data on design in their respective fields. Senor Juan de la Cierva, the inventor of the Autogyro, the first machine to successfully approach vertical flight, will be the principal speaker at a dinner at the Hotel Cleveland, Tuesday evening, August 27. An address by the Hon. David S. Ingalls, assistant secretary of the navy for aeronautics, the presentation of the Manly Memorial medal, and speeches by Edward P. Warner, editor of aviation, William B. Stout, president of the Stout Air service, and Russell L. Putnam, will also have a place on the program.

The Manly Memorial medal, presented annually by the society of Automotive Engineers to the author of the best paper relating to theory or practice in the design or construction of, or research on, aeronautic powerplants or parts and accessories, will be presented by Charles L. Lawrence, president of the Wright Aeronautical corporation, as chairman of the board of award.

Beryllium, a new alloy lighter than aluminum and stronger than steel, will be discussed in its application to the aeronautic industry on the morning of Wednesday, August 28, at a session devoted to the various light metals used in aircraft construction. Motion pictures of the Alclad metal airship recently completed in Detroit will also be shown at this session.

Standardization, which last year saved the automobile industry and the purchasers of motor vehicles \$340,000,000 is rapidly

being accomplished by the aeronautic industry. This important phase of production and service will be taken up Monday morning, August 26. Airplane landing-light requirements and research tests now being conducted will occupy a part of this same morning. A complete set of the landing-light equipment now being installed on six test planes throughout the country for the purpose of research will be exhibited.

A new type of propeller which increases the speed and maximum efficiency of airplanes has been engaging the interest of engineers throughout the country. The problems involved in the application of these propellers in which the pitch of the blades can be varied will be revealed at the Monday afternoon session, Theodore P. Wright, chief engineer of the airplane division of the Curtiss Aeroplane & Motor Co., and Frank W. Caldwell, consulting engineer of the Standard Steel Propeller corporation, will present data for discussion on controllable-pitch and variable-pitch propellers.

The substitution of other cooling liquids for water in aircraft engines, which permit higher-temperature operation and increased efficiency, will be the main topic of the evening meeting on Monday August 26. This subject is to be discussed by G. W. Frank, associate mechanical engineer of the Powerplant branch of the army air corps, and J. H. Geisse, vice-president of engineering, of the Comet Engine corporation.

Tuesday morning, August 27, will be devoted to the design of wings and aircraft structures.

The partially constructed largest airship dock in the world, the partially constructed many dirigibles, and some demonstration flights of non-rigid airships will be seen at the Goodyear plant at Akron, Ohio, by the engineers on Tuesday afternoon. The recent flight of the Graf Zeppelin has brought to the front the importance of lighter-than-air craft, and the work of the Goodyear-Zeppelin corporation surpasses in size anything ever attempted in this type of construction.

## NUN IDENTIFIES OLD MYSTERY ART WORK

RIVER FOREST, Ill.—(AP)—

In a fresco she never saw, Sister Mary Aquinas has identified figures that have challenged the curiosity of scholars six centuries. After two years' effort, Sister Mary, who is head of the English department at Rosary college here, declared the figures in the old fresco on the wall of a Spanish chapel at Florence are the artist's conception of important fourteenth century characters.

The fresco was painted by Andrea di Bonaiuto in 1355 on the east wall of the Spanish chapel of the church of Santa Maria Novella. It is "The Church Militant and Triumphant." While working on her doctor's thesis at the University of Chicago, Sister Mary found the key to the unknown fresco figures. An English knight of the garter was identified as Sir Edward le Despenser, a knight of King Edward III of Great Britain.

Through him the nun fixed the time, the return of Pope Urban V to Rome from Avignon. Two crusaders, Peter of Cyprus and Amadeus VI, count of Savoy, and Piero degli Albizzi, a prominent Florentine, also were recognized. Sister Mary also advanced information toward the identification of six other figures, Petrarch, the poet; Boccaccio, the storyteller; Cardinal Giles Arbozzo; Fra Jacobi Passavanti, vicar general of Florence and the crusading knight of Rhodes, Frere Raymond de Borenetz.

Some of the nun's work was based on descriptions of pictures no longer existing.

## \$52,000 DAMAGES ASKED BY WOMAN

PORTLAND, Ore., Aug. 11 (AP)—Mrs. Ida Laitinen of Hockinson, Wash., filed suit in federal district court here today against Matt Korpela, said to be engaged in the fishing industry at Astoria, to recover \$52,000 damages for the death of her son, Arthur Kungas, also known as Charles Lund, 19, who was drowned at the mouth of the Columbia river August 22, 1927.

## A Real Special Price on TIRES

Genuine Seiberling built Arrowhead Tires and Tubes. Not cheap merchandise but a mighty good tire at a real bargain Price. Double Guarantee and every Seiberling built Arrowhead Tire is warranted by Day & Niles, Inc., to give satisfactory service and by The Seib Rubber Co. against defects for the entire life of the tire.

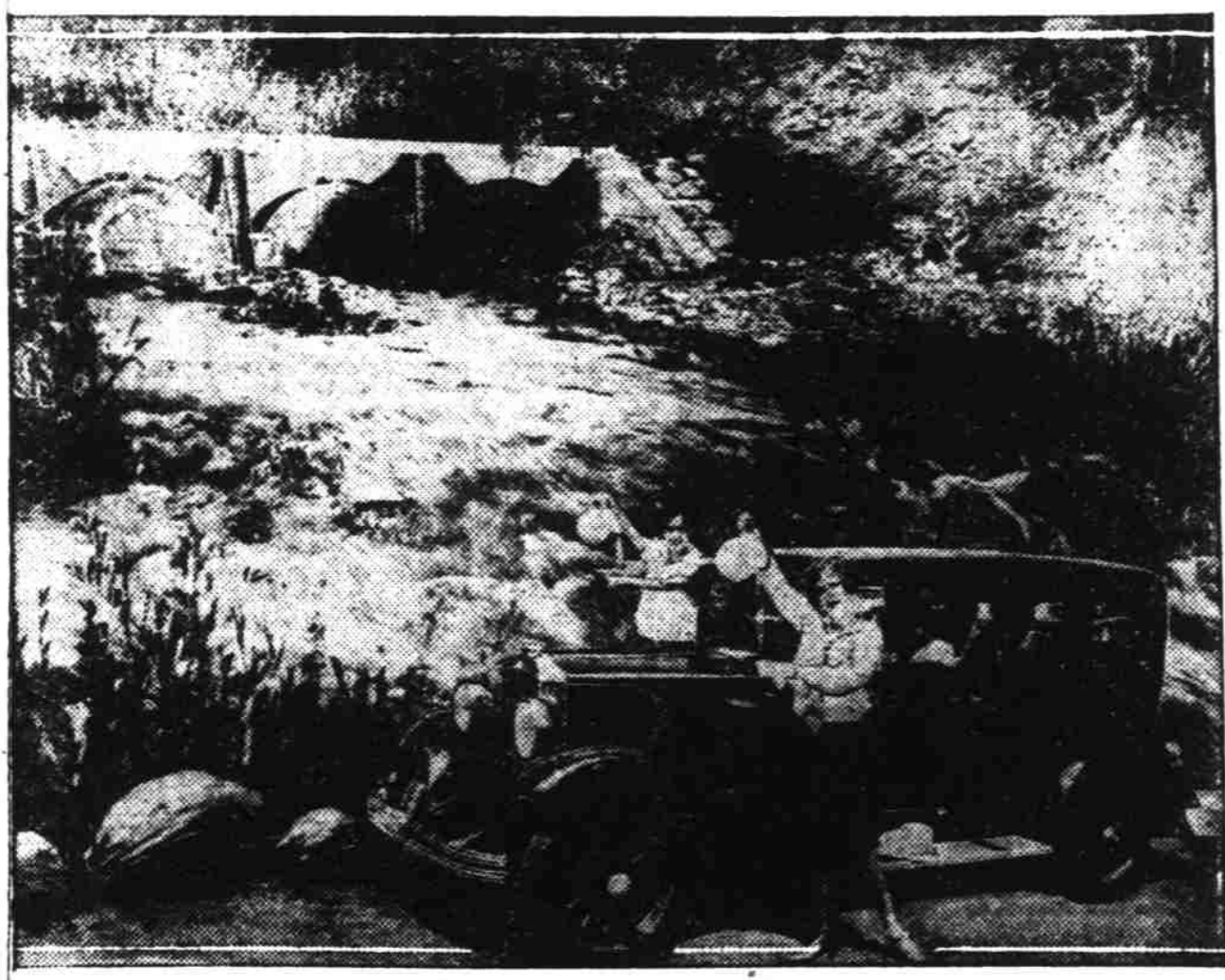
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4.40 x 29 Balloon	5.85	30 x 5.25 Balloon	10.35
30 x 4.50 Balloon	6.45	31 x 5.25 Balloon	10.60
29 x 4.75 Balloon	7.80		

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## "BEST IN THE WEST"



Speaking about things to drink, there's nothing like the pure mountain water from the Mokelumne River. And water is not the only attraction along this famed stream, according to these fair Durant Six Sixty-Six tourists. Located in the Sierra foothills near

San Andreas, California, is one of the largest dams in the world and one of the oldest mining towns in the West. A visit to this region is well worth your time if you are contemplating a tour to the San Francisco Bay region.

## HINTS for your SUNDAY DRIVE

We Suggest  
**A Trip to Taylor's Grove or Elkhorn**

This is a dandy short Sunday trip. Leave Salem and go to Turner 10.5 miles from Salem, then on 8.3 miles through Annsville to Sublimity—Turn here and go to Stayton and on to Mehama 11.8 miles. At Mehama turn to left and go over the hill following the "Little North Fork" to Taylor's grove. Those who wish will find it a pleasant drive on up to Elkhorn 18 miles from Mehama.

**BEFORE YOU GO PUT ON A SET OF NEW MILLER TIRES**  
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